

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

XMT AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS STATE 175979

FOL RPT USUN 2898 ACTION BUCHAREST COTONOU GEORGETOWN

ISLAMABAD MOSCOW NAIROBI PANAMA STOCKHOLM TOKYO TRIPOLI

TEL AVIV PEKING CONAKRY SECSTATE JUL 15

QUOTE: UNCLAS USUN 2898

DEPT PLEASE PASS OAU POSTS AS DESIRED

FOLLOWING IS EXCERPT OF OUR SUMMARY NO. 133 DATED JULY 14,
1976 REPEATED FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL -- ENTEBBE EVENTS

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THE SC JULY 14 FAILED TO ADOPT, FOR LACK OF THE REQUIRED

MAJORITY OF NINE VOTES, THE US-UK DRAFT RESOLUTION (S/12138)

WHICH WOULD HAVE HAD THE SC CONDEMN HIJACKING AND OTHER ACTS

THREATENING THE LIVES OF PASSENGERS AND CREWS, AND CALL FOR

MEASURES "TO PREVENT AND PUNISH ALL SUCH TERRORIST ACTS."
THE VOTE WAS 6(FRANCE, ITALY, JAPAN, SWEDEN, UK, US)-0-
2(PANAMA, ROMANIA), WITH BENIN, CHINA, GUYANA, LIBYA,
PAKISTAN, USSR AND TANZANIA NOT PARTICIPATING. MOST OF THOSE
NOT PARTICIPATING EXPLAINED IT WAS BECAUSE THE DRAFT DID NOT
DEAL WITH THE AGENDA ITEM. THE TANZANIAN-BENIN-LIBYA DRAFT
(S/12139) WAS NOT PRESSED TO A VOTE, BUT THE COSPONSORS RESERVED
RIGHT TO REVIVE CONSIDERATION OF IT "AT THE APPROPRIATE
MOMENT." STATEMENTS WERE ALSO MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVES
OF LIBYA, FRANCE, ITALY, CUBA, SOMALIA AND UGANDA BEFORE
THE VOTING AND EXPLANATIONS OF VOTES. ISRAELI AMB HERZOG
APPEALED FOR ACTION AS A MATTER OF HUMANITY TO DISCOVER WHERE-
ABOUTS OF MRS. DORA BLOCH; IF SHE IS NOT ALIVE, HE APPEALED
THAT HER BODY BE RETURNED TO HER FAMILY. PRESIDENT VINCI
(ITALY) STATED HE WOULD CONVEY THAT APPEAL TO THE UGANDAN
FOREIGN MINISTER.

LIBYA -- KIKHIA CHARGED INTER ALIA THAT ISRAEL'S
CRIMINAL ACTION WOULD MAKE ANY FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH
HIJACKERS MORE DIFFICULT AND THAT USING INFORMATION GIVEN
BY RELEASED HOSTAGES AS BASIS FOR ISRAELI ATTACK CONSTITUTED
A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT. HE SAID MASS MEDIA OF IMPERIALIST
POWERS LAUDED THE ISRAELI ACTION AND THE VOA BROADCAST
THE NEWS OF THE AGGRESSION IMMEDIATELY. THE TRAGEDY OF
ENTEBBE SHOWED THAT WESTERN POWERS MANIFESTED A FANATICAL
SOLIDARITY "AGAINST THE BLACKS OF AFRICA AND AGAINST THE
BROWNS OF THE ARAB LANDS" AND LAUDED TECHNICAL EFFICIENCY
AT THE EXPENSE OF HONOR AND MORAL PRINCIPLES. HE NOTED GOV
SCRANTON RECOGNIZED VIOLATION OF UGANDA'S SOVEREIGNTY.
HE WAS SURPRISED BY GOV SCRANTON'S ADMISSION HE ADMIRERED THE
ISRAELI ACTION, BUT IT WAS TYPICAL OF THE RACIST ATTITUDE
TO BE FOUND IN THE WESTERN BOURGEOISE.

FRANCE -- LECOMPT FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO ATTRIBUTE RESPONSIBILITY
FOR EVENTS IN THIS CASE. THE ISRAELI ACTION WOULD NOT HAVE
TAKEN PLACE HAD THE HIJACKING NOT TAKEN PLACE, AND THE ISRAELI
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INFRINGEMENT OF UGANDA'S SOVEREIGNTY HAD BEEN EXCLUSIVELY
FOR THE PURPOSE OF SAVING HUMAN LIVES IN DANGER IN A VERY
SPECIAL SITUATION. HE ASKED WHETHER UGANDA HAD COMPLIED
WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE HAGUE CONVENTION. THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY COULD NOT ALLOW GROUPS TO HAVE RECOURSE TO METHODS
THAT ENDANGERED INNOCENT LIVES. HE SPOKE OF THE NEED FOR A
NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND DEPLORED VIO-
LENCE FROM WHATEVER QUARTER IT CAME AND THE LOSS OF LIVES ON
BOTH SIDES IN UGANDA. IF ANY CONCLUSION WERE TO BE DRAWN FROM
THE ENTEBBE AFFAIR, IT WAS THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE SHOULD BE
DONE, BY NEGOTIATION, TO SEE THAT THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF
ALL WERE RECOGNIZED, AND THE RIGHT TO LIFE OF INNOCENT
PEOPLE TRAVELING ON AIRCRAFT WAS NOT THE LEAST OF THESE.

ITALY -- PRESIDENT VINCI, SPEAKING AS THE ITALIAN REPRESENTATIVE, SAID NO ONE COULD QUARREL WITH THE LEGITIMATE CONCERN OF THE AFRICANS. OTHERS HAD STRONGLY UPHELD THE RIGHT OR DUTY OF A GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT LIVES OF ITS ENDANGERED NATIONALS IN THE TERRITORY OF ANOTHER STATE WHEN THE LATTER HAD PROVEN UNABLE TO ENSURE SUCH PROTECTION. THERE SEEMED TO BE LITTLE GROUND FOR AGREEMENT ON THIS POINT, BUT THE PROBLEM COULD NOT BE IGNORED, AND HE WONDERED "IF WE COULD NOT AGREE AT LEAST ON HAVING IT REFERRED TO THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION" IN ORDER TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR A UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED DOCTRINE ON THE MATTER. VINCI GAVE HIGH PRIORITY TO THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION DESIGNED TO CURB INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.

KHARLAMOV (SOCIET UNION) NOTED VINCI CALLED FOR MEASURES TO PREVENT TERRORISM, WITH SEVERE PUNISHMENT OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE, AND HE CALLED ATTENTION TO THE NEW YORK TIMES JULY 12 ARTICLE TO THE EFFECT ITALY GAVE REFUGE TO TWO TERRORISTS, CRIMINALS WHO HAD HIJACKED A SOVIET PLANE AND KILLED THE STEWARDESS TRYING TO PROTECT THE PASSENGERS. LATER, VINCI REPORTED THAT FROM PRELIMINARY INQUIRY HE ASSUMED THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE REFERRED TO THE SOVIET AIRCRAFT WHICH LANDED IN TURKEY YEARS AGO AND WHICH WAS NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ITALIAN AUTHORITIES.

AMB BENNETT SAID HE WAS DISTRESSED THAT THE LIBYAN REPRESENTATIVE WAS DISAPPOINTED IN WHAT GOV SCRANTON HAD SAID, UNCLASSIFIED

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BUT THE LIBYAN HAD QUOTED ONLY PART OF THE STATEMENT, THUS MISQUOTING GOV SCRANTON. BENNETT THEN READ THE ENTIRE PORTION OF THE STATEMENT REFERRED TO. (USUN 2894 NOTAL)

CUBA -- ACOSTA, IN RELATIVELY SHORT STATEMENT, CONDEMNED THE ISRAELI ACTION AND ISRAELI STATE TERRORISM, AND OPPOSED ANY ATTEMPT TO "DISTORT" THE MATTER BEFORE THE SC.

SOMALIA -- HUSSEN SAW NO REASON TO DILUTE THE AGENDA ITEM, ACCUSED THE ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVE OF TRYING TO SOW DISUNITY AMONG AFRICAN STATES, SPOKE OF LONG LIST OF ISRAELI TERRORIST ATROCITIES AGAINST ITS NEIGHBORS, AND NOTED THAT NONE OF THOSE WHO CONDEMNED TERRORISM IN THE SC HAD EXPRESSED A WORD OF REGRET OVER THE DEATH OF INNOCENT PEOPLE AT THE HANDS OF THE ISRAELIS.

UGANDA -- FOREIGN MINISTER ABDALLA DECLARED THAT THE ONLY ISSUE WAS ISRAELI AGGRESSION AGAINST UGANDA, THE ISRAELI ARGUMENTS WERE ONLY "A PACK OF LIES," AND THE SC SHOULD CONDEMN ISRAEL AND CALL FOR COMPENSATION BY ISRAEL FOR UGANDA'S LOSSES. INSTEAD OF BEING APPRECIATIVE OF WHAT UGANDA HAD BEEN DOING IN GOOD FAITH, ISRAEL MADE A SURPRISE ATTACK LIKE THE ONE AT PEARL HARBOR. THE U.S. WAS STRONG THEN,

AND UGANDA IS STRONG AS WELL AND QUITE ABLE TO REPULSE ANY AGGRESSION, WHETHER BY ISRAEL OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY. HE AGAIN DENIED UGANDA HAD PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE HIJACKING OR COOPERATED WITH THE HIJACKERS OR SUPPLIED ANY WEAPONS TO THEM. HE SAID THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE HAD "ECHOED THE ZIONIST REPRESENTATIVE'S FALSE ALLEGATIONS" AND GONE SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT THE ENTEBBE OPERATION "ELECTRIFIED" HIM. THE ZIONISTS EXERCISED GREAT INFLUENCE IN THE U.S. "FROM TOP TO BOTTOM," AND THE U.S. CHIEF OF STAFF, GEN. BROWN, HAD STATED "YOU WON'T BELIEVE" HOW MUCH INFLUENCE THE ZIONISTS HAD. HE WAS SURE THE PEOPLE OF THE U.S. WOULD SOONER OR LATER RISE UP AGAINST INCREASING ZIONIST CONTROL OF THEIR COUNTRY, JUST AS UGANDA HAD DONE WHEN IT EXPELLED THE ZIONISTS WHO WERE "MILKING ITS ECONOMY." HE CLAIMED THAT THE ZIONISTS WERE ATTACKING HIS COUNTRY BECAUSE OF ITS OPPOSITION TO THE TEL AVIV-PRETORIA AXIS AND BECAUSE IT "EXPELLED THE ZIONIST EXPLOITERS." ABDALLA GAVE "A SINCERE WARNING" TO THE U.S. THAT IF IT WAS NOT CAREFUL THE ZIONISTS WOULD UNCLASSIFIED

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LAND THE U.S. IN TROUBLE FROM WHICH IT WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO EXTRICATE ITSELF. THE UGANDAN FOREIGN MINISTER THEN CRITICIZED SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENTS ON AFRICA AND U.S. POLICY TOWARD AFRICA, AND SAID AN AMERICAN MERCENARY HAD "RIGHTLY BEEN EXECUTED" IN ANGOLA. AMERICAN IMPERIALISM, DEFEATED IN INDOCHINA, WOULD SUFFER DEFEAT IN AFRICA AS WELL. THE PRESENCE OF AN AMERICAN WARSHIP AND MILITARY PLANES IN HIS PART OF THE WORLD WERE A DIRECT THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, HE DECLARED.

-- EXPLANATIONS OF VOTES --

SALIM (TANZANIA), SPEAKING ALSO ON BEHALF OF BENIN AND LIBYA, STATED THE UK-US DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS AN ATTEMPT TO "COMPLETELY GLOSS OVER THE FACT OF THE VIOLATION OF UGANDA'S SOVEREIGNTY." IN VIEW OF THE CONFRONTATIONS WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE, HE DID NOT THINK IT WOULD BE IDEAL TO INSIST ON VOTING ON THE THREE-POWER DRAFT, AND THE SPONSORS, THEREFORE, WOULD NOT INSIST ON A VOTE, BUT THE DRAFT WOULD REMAIN ON THE RECORD AND THE SPONSORS RESERVED THE RIGHT TO REVIVE CONSIDERATION OF IT.

MIRZA (PAKISTAN) SUPPORTED THE AFRICAN DRAFT AND WOULD SUPPORT IT LATER WHENEVER THE MATTER WAS BROUGHT UP. THE UK-US DRAFT, HE SAID, DID NOT DEAL WITH THE AGENDA ITEM AND HE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE VOTE. THE REPRESENTATIVES OF GUYANA, BENIN AND THE SOVIET UNION ALSO STATED THEY WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE BECAUSE THE UK-US RESOLUTION WAS NOT IN ACCORD WITH THE AGENDA ITEM. ABE (JAPAN) VOTED FOR THE DRAFT RESOLUTION, BUT ADDED IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF IT HAD ALSO REFERRED TO THE ISRAELI ACTION.

FOLLOWING THE VOTE, UK AMB RICHARD SAID THAT IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THERE COULD BE NO AGREEMENT, A NUMBER OF VIEWS WERE WIDELY SHARED, INCLUDING: THE CONDEMNATION OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND THE NEED FOR FURTHER INTERNATIONAL ACTION AGAINST IT; THE NEED TO UPHOLD THE RULE OF LAW AND THE CHARTER; THE NEED TO RESPECT THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF STATES; AND THE NEED TO RECONCILE A STATE'S NEED TO PROTECT THE LIVES OF ITS CITIZENS WITH THE QUESTION OF RESPECT FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL

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INTEGRITY OF STATES. THE QUESTION OF MRS. DORA BLOCH HAD PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE DEBATE, AND THE ISSUE HAD BEEN THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA CHOSE TO LIE ABOUT HER. RICHARD DREW ATTENTION TO THE JULY 13 EC-9 STATEMENT, AND HE ALSO SAID THE UK WAS NOT PREPARED TO SUBMIT TO THREATS FROM WHATEVER QUARTERS.

AMB BENNETT REGRETTED THE SC HAD NOT TAKEN ACTION AGAINST HIJACKING, AND ALSO REGRETTED LOSS OF LIVES IN THIS INCIDENT. THE U.S. DID NOT REGARD THE ISRAELI ACTION, IN VIEW OF ITS EXCEPTIONAL NATURE, AS A VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW NOR AS A PRECEDENT FOR "UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY" IN THE FUTURE. HE APPLAUDED THE FRG FOR STATING THE QUESTION OF UN ACTION AGAINST INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM WOULD BE BROUGHT UP IN THE GA, AND HE NOTED IN THIS REGARD THAT THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE HAD SAID THE SOVIET UNION WAS READY FOR NEW ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO BE TAKEN AGAINST INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. (USUN 2895 NOTAL)

TANZANIAN AMB SALIM EXPLAINED THAT IN NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE VOTE ON THE US-UK RESOLUTION, HE DID NOT WISH TO TAKE A POSITION ON THE MERITS OF THAT DRAFT, HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, AGREE WITH THE VIEWS OF THE UK AND THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVES THAT IT WAS BALANCED.

IN CONCLUSION, THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF MAURITIUS, SIR HAROLD WALTER, SAID THE SC HAD GIVEN FREE VENT TO ITS FEELINGS ON AN UNPRECEDENTED SITUATION, AND HE HOPED THE DEBATE WOULD PROVE USEFUL FOR FUTURE GUIDANCE. HE WELCOMED THE STRESS PLACED BY SC MEMBERS ON CHARTER PRINCIPLES, AND SAID THAT EVEN THE VERY TEMPORARY VIOLATION OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF A UN MEMBER STATE COULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN.

BENNETT

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